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STATE OF NEW-YORK.

No. 340.

IN ASSEMBLY,

April 27, 1840.

REPORT

Of the select committee on numerous petitions,
praying relief for Thompsonian Physicians.

Mr. Farrington, from the select committee to whom was referred numerous petitions praying for the passage of a law to relieve Thompsonian physicians from the disabilities imposed upon them by the present law in relation to the recovery of a compensation for their services in attending the sick,

REPORTS:

That by the existing law, all persons not licensed under the laws of the State are prohibited from practising physic or surgery, and a penalty is imposed for practising without a license; except in the case of the use and application for the benefit of the sick of roots, barks or herbs, the growth or produce of the United States. This prohibition is, without doubt, intended to protect the community against injury from unskilled and incompetent practitioners, while the exception in favor of roots, barks and herbs is a concession that no danger is apprehended from their use as a medicine.

If the existing law is founded upon correct principles, it is not perceived what good reason can be offered for prohibiting the collection of pay by a practitioner for his services, whose practice is tolerated by law and declared, in effect, not to be injurious to the community.

[Assembly, No. 340.]



Your committee are of opinion that the restrictions of law may be modified in such manner as to remedy the evil complained of, without detriment to the public. They therefore ask leave to introduce a bill.

All which is respectfully submitted.

T U 23 JUN '45